EDUCATION.

(*Nos. 98—123.*)

No. 98.

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State.
achar, Pavagada

Summary of discussion.—The Mysore Economic Conference seems to have submitted proposals to Government for a University being established in Mysore after the starting of certain Technical Colleges in the State. Several examinations—both Departmental and Local—are being held every year. The initial cost of the establishment of the University is not expected to be much. It is, therefore, prayed that steps be taken for the University being started at once to facilitate the Local Departmental and other Technical Examinations being included in the list of University Examinations and held along with them every year.

Reply of Government.—A committee is carefully investigating the whole question.

SUBJECT NO. 99.

Improvement of the condition of high schools.

Mr. S. Venkatesiah, Hassan District Agricultural and Industrial Association.

Summary of discussion.—The teaching of English and Science is not in the hands of competent men in some of the high schools. High schools must invariably have European or Indian Graduates of English Universities as headmasters.

The condition of the moffusil high schools may be improved by the appointment as headmasters of officers of the Education Department who have had European training.

Teachers with European qualifications are necessary to secure the maintenance of discipline and the proper teaching of English.

Per contra.—*Mr. Venkatakrishniah* said that competent Indian graduates would do better than European graduates and suggested that a system of professional examinations as in the case of Sub-Assistant Surgeons should be adopted to regulate promotions among teachers.

Reply of Government.—The principle is recognised by Government. There is practical difficulty in getting such men on reasonable terms.

SUBJECT NO. 100.

Book Committee.

(a) Mr. Sura Sastri, Chikballapur taluk.

(b) Mr. K. Ramanna, Hole-Narsipur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) More non-official gentlemen may be appointed on the Text-book Committee.

(*b*) The number of students who wear spectacles is increasing day by day. The Medical Association has attributed this to the reading of books printed in small type. It is therefore requested that a committee be appointed to approve, for use in schools and colleges, of only such books as are printed on thick paper in bold type with sufficient space between the lines.

Reply of Government.—(*a*) There is no objection to appoint more non-official gentlemen if eligible men are forthcoming.

(*b*) Will be referred to the Text-book Committee.

SUBJECT No. 101.

Frequent change of educational text-books.

(1) Messrs. Syed Peer, Anjuman-i-Islamia, Chikmagalur and C. Srinivasa Rao, Chikmagalur taluk.

(2) Mr. Sura Sastri, Chikballapur taluk.

(3) Mr. K. Ramanujiengar, Gubbi taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The frequent change of text-books in schools has been causing much inconvenience to the poorer classes of pupils. It is requested that orders may kindly be passed that text-books once prescribed should be in force for a period of years.

(2) The same text-books may be prescribed in all schools and they may be in force for at least three years.

(3) Frequent change of books works hardship on the poor A.-V. school students. It is prayed that this may be put a stop to.

Different text-books are prescribed in different schools and they are changed often. Children of the same family and poor students will be benefited if the same text-books are continued for at least a few years at a time. Books are changed even before the whole of a book first bought is taught or studied.

Inspector-General of Education.—Improved and better books become available from time to time. In the interests of sound education change of text-books is necessary.

Reply of Government.—(1) & (3) The proposal not to change text-books ordinarily for 3 years will be considered.

(2) This will be adopted as far as possible.

SUBJECT No. 102.

Frequent change of teachers in A.-V. schools is undesirable.

Mr. Ramanujiengar, Gubbi taluk.

Withdrawn.

SUBJECT No. 103.

Reduction of school fees in high schools and colleges.

Messrs. N. Bhima Rao, Chitaldrug municipality, Chikramanna and Byregowda, Kolar taluk, and Gurusiddappa, Harihar municipality.

Summary of discussion.—Fees in high schools and colleges may be reduced so that the rich and the poor alike may receive higher education.

In the last two classes of the English school, the fee may be reduced to facilitate the admission of children from the second class of the Kannada school.

The scale of school fees of the Kannada second class in A.-V. schools may be lowered from 8 to 4 annas to afford encouragement to poorer classes.

Government will gain indirectly by the spread of education even though there may be a reduction in the receipts from the school fees to start with.

Reply of Government.—This will be sympathetically considered.